

SECRET

2 June 1981

OLC 81-1101/2

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of the House Foreign Affairs Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee, 2 June 1981, Re Military Balance in the Taiwan Straits

1. On 2 June 1981, [redacted], Office of Strategic Research, took part in a briefing of the Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee, House Foreign Affairs on the military balance in the Taiwan Straits. [redacted] Defense Intelligence Officer, DIA, and Weaver Gim, INR/State, were the other principal witnesses. The closed briefing began in Room 2299 Rayburn House Office Building at 1500 hours and ended at 1635 hours. No transcript was taken. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

2. Members present from the Subcommittee were: [redacted]

25X1

Stephen J. Solarz (D., NY), Chairman  
Mervin M. Dymally (D., CA)

James A. S. Leach (R., IA)  
Robert K. Dornan (R., CA)  
Robert J. Lagomarsino (R., CA)  
Joel Pritchard (R., WA)

3. Members present from the staff were: [redacted]

25X1

Bill Barnds, Staff Director  
David Frank

Ed Friedman  
Linda Silver

In addition, each of the principal briefers was accompanied by several assistants.

4. Chairman Solarz opened the briefing by stating that the Subcommittee was seeking information on what change would take place in the military balance if either Taiwan or the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) were provided with advanced U.S. aircraft. [redacted] summarized the attached prepared statement and was followed by [redacted] and Gim. Next, the Chairman and Members asked questions. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

25X1

5. The Members' questions were directed mostly at State and DIA. They were interested in the capabilities of the various aircraft under consideration for sale to Taiwan. Representative Dornan, as a former fighter pilot, expressed his views on the issue indicating that the closed session afforded the opportunity to be completely candid. Chairman Solarz asked if the Taiwanese have been informed about our study on the ability of the PRC to attack Taiwan and we responded by telling him that we provided them only with the conclusions. There was also discussion on the various aspects of both an invasion and a blockade attempt by the PRC against Taiwan. DIA answered a question about why a nuclear encounter is not expected. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

SECRET

6. At the conclusion of the briefing, Chairman Solarz said that the information had been "extraordinarily useful" and he thanked all participants for their thoughtful presentations and candor. [redacted]

25X1



25X1

Assistant Legislative Counsel

Attachment:

As stated

Distribution:

Original - OLC Subject

1 - OLC Chrono

OLC:RJK:mm (4 June 1981)

**Page Denied**

Next 20 Page(s) In Document Denied